

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A plastic container, comprising:  
a finish portion; and  
a generally cylindrical main body portion, said main body portion comprising a sidewall having a first plurality of generally vertical ribs defined therein, said sidewall further having a ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs defined therein, at least one of said ~~generally~~ horizontal wave shaped ribs having an amplitude ~~that is within a range~~ that is within a range of about 4.5 percent to about 30 percent of its wavelength, and at least one of said ~~generally horizontal wave shaped~~ generally vertical ribs intersecting with more than one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs at least one of said ~~generally vertical~~ ribs, whereby ~~enhanced strength characteristics are imparted to the container.~~
2. (Original) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said container is fabricated from a plastic material comprising polyethylene terephthalate.
3. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said ~~first~~ plurality of generally vertical ribs ~~emprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.
4. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~emprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.
5. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~emprise~~ comprises a plurality of wave shaped ribs that extend generally parallel to each other.
6. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~ ~~plurality of~~ generally horizontal wave shaped ribs are shaped so as to have a common amplitude and a common wavelength.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 6, wherein said sidewall has an outer circumference, ~~wherein and~~ said wavelength of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs is within a range of about 6 percent to about 40 percent of said outer circumference.

9. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said at least one ~~of said~~ generally vertical ribs rib intersects ~~at least one of~~ said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs at a location of maximum amplitude of said each intersected horizontal wave shaped rib.

10. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said at least one ~~of said~~ generally vertical ribs rib intersects ~~at least one of~~ said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs at a location of minimum amplitude of said each intersected horizontal wave shaped rib.

11. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, ~~wherein at least one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs has a periodic wavelength, and wherein a plurality~~ more than one of said generally vertical ribs intersect more than one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs, and each intersected horizontal wave shaped rib is intersected within each wavelength.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 11, wherein the ~~location~~ locations of said generally vertical ribs are ~~is~~ harmonized with respect to a ~~the~~ waveform of at least one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs are defined on a generally convex outer surface of said generally cylindrical main body portion.

16. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said ~~plurality of~~ generally horizontal wave shaped ribs extend all the way about an outer circumference of said generally cylindrical main body portion.

17. (Currently Amended) A plastic container, comprising:  
a finish portion; and  
a generally cylindrical main body portion, said main body portion comprising a sidewall having a ~~first~~ plurality of generally vertical ribs defined therein, said sidewall further having a ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs defined therein, said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs, ribs being defined on a generally convex outer surface of said generally cylindrical main body portion; and  
at least one of said ~~generally horizontal wave shaped~~ generally vertical ribs intersecting with more than one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~at least one of said generally vertical ribs, whereby enhanced strength characteristics are imparted to the container.~~

18. (Previously Presented) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said container is fabricated from a plastic material comprising polyethylene terephthalate.

19. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said ~~first~~ plurality of generally vertical ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.

20. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.

21. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises a plurality of wave shaped ribs that extend generally parallel to each other.

22. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 21, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs are shaped so as to have a common amplitude and a common wavelength.

23. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said sidewall has an outer circumference, ~~wherein said~~ and a wavelength of at least one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs is within a range of about 6 percent to about 40 percent of said outer circumference.

24. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 17, wherein said ~~plurality of~~ generally horizontal wave shaped ribs extend all the way about an outer circumference of said generally cylindrical main body portion.

25. (Currently Amended) A plastic container, comprising:  
a finish portion; and  
a generally cylindrical main body portion, said main body portion comprising a sidewall having a ~~first~~ plurality of generally vertical ribs defined therein, said sidewall further having a ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs defined therein, said ~~plurality of~~ generally horizontal wave shaped ribs extending all the way about an outer circumference of said generally cylindrical main body portion, and at least one of said generally horizontal wave shaped generally vertical ribs intersecting with more than one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs at least one of said generally vertical ribs, whereby enhanced strength characteristics are imparted to the container.

26. (Previously Presented) A plastic container according to claim 25, wherein said container is fabricated from a plastic material comprising polyethylene terephthalate.

27. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 25, wherein said ~~first~~ plurality of generally vertical ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.

28. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 25, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises at least one rib that is inwardly oriented.

29. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 25, wherein said ~~second~~ plurality of generally horizontal wave shaped ribs ~~comprise~~ comprises a plurality of wave shaped ribs that extend generally parallel to each other.

30. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim 29, wherein said ~~second~~ ~~plurality of~~ generally horizontal wave shaped ribs are shaped so as to have a common amplitude and a common wavelength.

31. (Currently Amended) A plastic container according to claim ~~38~~25, wherein said sidewall has an outer circumference, ~~wherein said~~ and a wavelength of at least one of said generally horizontal wave shaped ribs is within a range of about 6 percent to about 40 percent of said outer circumference.